

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 157

By Haynes

A RESOLUTION to recognize Bill Hance on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of the General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Bill Hance is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for twenty-five years as the assistant vice chancellor of the Vanderbilt University Medical Center's (VUMC) Office of News and Communications; and

WHEREAS, at the end of 2011, Mr. Hance will be taking a much deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hance earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Western Kentucky University and a Juris Doctor degree from the Nashville School of Law; and

WHEREAS, he served with acumen and alacrity for seventeen years as a reporter for the *Nashville Banner*, at which he spent eleven years covering entertainment, including coverage of Elvis Presley's death in 1977, and four years as the city editor before moving to VUMC's Office of News and Communications; and

WHEREAS, when Mr. Hance arrived at Vanderbilt in 1986, the VUMC News and Communications office was a small news operation focused primarily on internal communications; and

WHEREAS, under Bill Hance's leadership, the operation grew to encompass a broad range of award-winning publications and a system for working with local, national, and international news media that is positioned at the forefront of academic medicine communications efforts; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the twenty-four-person News and Communications office is to tell Vanderbilt's story, which is accomplished through two channels: media relations, which focuses on working with television, print, broadcast, and Web reporters on stories about Vanderbilt and its personnel; and publications, which are geared toward various audiences both inside and outside of Vanderbilt; and

WHEREAS, the *VUMC Reporter* is published forty-eight times per year and the News and Communications office also produces eleven separate publications, producing E-mail newsletters and administering Web sites for each of the publications; and

WHEREAS, a public-spirited citizen of the highest order, Mr. Hance also graciously donates his time and energies to serving as the chair of the Metropolitan Health Board; and

WHEREAS, Bill Hance epitomizes the spirit of volunteerism and commitment to excellence that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Mr. Hance has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Bill Hance our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.